

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

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COUNTRY **East Germany**REPORT

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SUBJECT **VEB Filmfabrik Agfa-Wolfen**

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REFERENCES

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DATE ACQUIRE This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. VEB Filmfabrik Agfa-Wolfen has about 14,000 employees, of whom about 7,000 are women. Approximately 2500 are office workers and 1,200 or 1,300 of the employees are members of the SED.
2. In 1954 the color film coating plants (Giessereien and Begiessereien) which had been begun in 1953 were completed. The Vistra storage areas were also constructed in 1954. The reconstruction of the rayon plant is to be completed in 1955.
3. Monthly production of Vistra amounts to approximately 300 or 400 tons. Vistra is produced exclusively for East German consumption. Approximately two or three tons of Cord-Seide and PC-Seide are produced daily. These two products are manufactured chiefly for the USSR and the satellites but some of it is also used by East Germany.
4. It was planned to produce 2,500,000 meters of motion-picture film in January 1955, including 250,000 meters of color film. The USSR receives one-half of the black-and-white motion-picture film and the remainder is divided between the satellites and East Germany. At least 90% of the color film goes to the USSR.
5. It was planned to produce 16,000 6 x 9 rolls of camera film in January 1955, to be delivered to the USSR. From 25,000 to 30,00 square meters of X-ray film is produced per month.
6. A serious bottleneck in production is created by the shortage of glass for photographic plates. The plant had to send vehicles to Leipzig several times a day to pick up partial shipments from the supplier plants. Great difficulties were experienced in the summer of 1953, when the paper which was wound around the film spools showed a tendency to tear because of the poor quality. Two million spools had to be checked. Alcohol creates another bottleneck in production; two tankcars are required by the plant per week.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "R"; Field distribution by "F".)

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7. Gelatin is obtained from Schweinfurt and it is piling up in the storage areas as a result of the bottlenecks in other products. The coloring material ~~is obtained from Leverkusen under the~~ is obtained from Leverkusen under the interzonal agreement. The requirements of jute covers for packing the Vistra production amount to 250,000 square meters.
8. Hollenkamm (fnu), the former commercial director of the plant, is now the director of general administration and also the head of the Sport organization, with a monthly salary of 2,500 DEM. He organized a soccer team with 25 players. The soccer players are guaranteed ~~the~~ salary of at least 750 DEM take-home pay and are not required to do any work. They are also provided with free meals - with special rations - by the plant mess. A so-called first coach, Worms (fnu), is employed full time and receives a salary of 1,500 DEM per month. Another coach (nu) is employed for the other soccer players of the plant's sport organization (BSG) at a salary of 800 DEM. The BSG has about 1,000 members. Still another coach is employed for handball; he comes twice a week and receives a salary of 450 DEM.

1.  Comment: It is not clear whether this requirement is for one month or for a longer period.
2.  Comment: This probably stands for Betriebs-Sport-Gesellschaft.

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